# HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Rick Collins, President9

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

**Bay Clinic** 

Big Brothers Big Sisters of

Hawaii

**Bobby Benson Center** 

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of

West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action

Network

Hawaii Student Television

Ho`ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Maui Youth and Family Services

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together

(PACT)

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

PHOCUSED

Salvation Army Family

**Intervention Services** 

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community

Center

The Catalyst Group

February 26, 2018

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

And members of the Committee on Ways and Means

# TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2083 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 2083 Relating to After-School Programs.

High quality after-school programs are effective in reducing the risk of a variety of undesirable behaviors among adolescents, including unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, juvenile crime, and substance abuse. They can increase school achievement, reduce dropout rates, and provide service learning opportunities that teach young people the value of contributing back to their communities.

Hawaii has the highest percentage of households in the United States in which all adults are employed. These working families need after school programs to ensure that children are safe and engaged in productive activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Judith F. Clark, MPH

**Executive Director** 



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# American Heart Association testimony in support of SB 2083, "Relating to After-School Programs"

The American Heart Association supports SB 2083 as a step forward toward providing greater resources to prevent obesity in Hawaii's keiki.

Childhood obesity is a U.S. epidemic. Hawaii youths are not immune, falling at or near the national average of childhood obesity statistics, and the trend for Hawaii's youths is unfortunately climbing. More focus is needed to improve and instill both healthy nutrition and physical activity lifestyle habits in Hawaii youths. Currently, physical education is not required for Hawaii middle schools, and only one semester is required in high schools. If healthy lifestyle habits are not established at young ages, it is very difficult to change unhealthy habits in later ages.

The burden of cardiovascular disease is now growing faster than our ability to combat it due to the obesity epidemic, poor diet, high blood pressure and a dramatic rise in Type 2 diabetes – all major risk factors for heart disease and stroke. In a frightening reversal, the overall decline in CVD mortality rates have flattened to less than 1 percent per year since 2011, and rates have even worsened for our most at-risk populations. In 2015, the death rate from heart disease actually increased by 1 percent for the first time since 1969, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics.

In addition, CVD has become our nation's costliest chronic disease. In 2014, stroke and heart failure were the most expensive chronic conditions in the Medicare fee-for-service program. Expenses associated with CVD are expected to soar in the coming years and surpass medical cost estimates for other chronic diseases, such as diabetes and Alzheimer's. Based on prevalence, death rates, disability and cost, CVD will continue to be the most burdensome disease Americans will face in the next decades.

The costs of obesity, which is rooted in lifestyle habits established at younger ages, is staggering, costing \$190 billion a year in weight-related medical bills, according to the American Heart Association. In 2011, the CDC estimated that healthcare costs exceed \$8,600 annually (per capita). Another study estimated that medical spending attributable to obesity was estimated to be more than \$1400 higher than normal weight individuals.

The AHA supports SB 2083 as one step to address Hawaii's childhood obesity epidemic.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 2083.

Don Weisman

Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director









**TO:** Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

**FROM:** Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO of Parents And Children Together (PACT)

DATE/LOCATION: Wednesday, February 28, 2018; 10:45 a.m., Conference Room 211

# RE: <u>TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2083 RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS</u>

We support SB 2083 – Relating to After School Programs. Participation in afterschool programs provide a wide range of immediate and long-term benefits, that include improved academic performance, reduced risky behavior, reduced drug use, improved health, and overall better social and economic well-being. It is particularly important during the middle and intermediate school years to have programs that involve students in positive after school activities. Children in this age group are increasingly responsible for caring for themselves and need healthy and productive programs to participate in during the afterschool hours; keeping them safe, engaged and out of trouble.

For Hawaii's 75% of working families with children, a majority agree that having after school programs allows them to keep their jobs and their peace of mind knowing that their children are cared for in an afterschool program. These programs ensure that students are kept in a safe environment, while being engaged in fun and educational activities that allows them to practice healthy values. It is of crucial importance that we invest in programs that dedicate their services to ensure a safe and happy environment for the growth and development of our keiki, especially for middle schoolers who don't currently have afterschool program options. Allowing our children to express themselves in creative programs instills healthy values that they will carry with them for generations to come. Many students take comfort in their schools as their second homes, and it would be beneficial to support that view with the security of afterschool resources in place.

Parents And Children Together is just one of the many organizations who offer prevention and intervention programs to ensure healthy environments for children and families in Hawaii. It takes more than just resources alone to carry out success in this work, but the continuous support

of community members and leaders who become role models for the future generations. **Children in Hawaii, no matter what their circumstance, deserve a chance.** This is also a key component to our war on intergenerational poverty.

Founded in 1968, Parents And Children Together (PACT) is one of Hawaii's not-for-profit organizations providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 18,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 16 programs. Among its services are: early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, and community building programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB 2083**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or <u>rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org</u> if you have any questions.



# **Special Education Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*Ms. Dale Matsuura, *Vice Chair*Dr. Patricia Sheehey, *Vice* 

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Ms. Jasmine Williams

Ms. Susan Wood

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff Susan Rocco, Staff

## S E A C

# Special Education Advisory Council 1010 Richard Street, Room 118

Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129 email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

February 28, 2018

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Committee on Ways and Means

Hawaii State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: S.B. 2083 - RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), strongly supports S.B. 2083 which appropriates funds for afterschool programs at Kalanianaole Elementary and Intermediate School, Kapaa Middle School, Konawaena Middle School and Waimea Canyon Middle School.

Like the authors of this bill, SEAC believes in investing in preventive programs to ensure positive outcomes for students as well as saving resources on the back end. Native Hawaiian youth are disproportionately represented in special education and are more likely to be disciplined for school infractions than students without disabilities. After school programs offer a rich array of learning and enrichment activities that benefit students and produce improved outcomes in achievement and behavior. They also provide the supervision and positive peer support that many students need to avoid unlawful actions in the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important legislation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

Sincerely

Martha Guinan

Chair

Ivalee Sinclair

Legislative Committee Chair

Solu Sindin

# Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance 841 Bishop Street, Suite 301 · Honolulu, HI 96813



February 28, 2018

Committee on Ways and Means Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Conference Room 221

Re: Support of SB 2083: RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports Senate Bill 2083, which seeks to appropriate funds for after-school programs.

The State of Hawai'i, twenty-eighth legislature, 2016, requested the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) to convene a working group to review after-school programs in Hawai'i's public middle and intermediate schools. This working group, formed by experts in the field, submitted its finding and recommendations to the Legislature. The group came to the conclusion that it is essential in order to avoid duplication of services, to have a better coordination and alignment of funding and to ensure accountability, that all federal and state funding afterschool programs be administrated by the Hawai'i Department of Education Community Engagement Office. In accordance with this recommendation of the working group, the Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance, proposes that the sum appropriated in this bill shall be expended by the Hawai'i Department of Education Community Engagement Office and that the Community Engagement Office be given the authority to decide which Title I schools shall receive this funding. This will ensure that selected schools do not currently receive state or federal funding for afterschool programs. Including the names of specific schools in the bills, as proposed, limits the intention of the bill to support those populations of students that are underserved. It is also important to note, that funding for afterschool programs change year to year and the four schools currently named in the bill may be in a different situation where they could be receiving state and/or federal funding during the 2018 – 2019 school year.

It is also appropriate to point out that "Middle school is a "make or break" time for many young adolescents academically. In addition to facing more demanding academics, middle school youth are dealing with the challenge of meeting social and emotional benchmarks as they transition from elementary school to middle school and then high school. During this transition, middle school youth experience fluctuating emotions and motivation levels, and are exposed to new situations and experiences. Peer pressure, academic demands, exposure to new social environments, and physical changes are added distractions to an already new and sometimes overwhelming time in their lives. For these reasons, all middle and intermediate school students must have a safe and engaging place to go during the afterschool hours.

The "2014 America After 3PM" report, published by the national Afterschool Alliance, articulates some relevant and important statistics:

- 93% of Hawai'i parents support public funding for afterschool programs,
- 86% of Hawai'i parents agree that afterschool programs give working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/2014\_MetLife\_Compendium.pdf

# Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

841 Bishop Street, Suite 301 · Honolulu, HI 96813

- 72% of parents in Hawai'i agree that afterschool programs help parents keep their jobs,
- 75% of Hawai'i parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors, and
- 62% of the parents in Hawai'i agree that afterschool programs excite children about learning.

Moreover, afterschool programs have proven results<sup>2</sup>.

- In Chicago an evaluation of a middle school program, found program participation led to an almost 20% reduction in school suspension.
- In Marin City, California an afterschool program saw 40% of their participants improve their GPA and 100% graduate from high school and be accepted into colleges.
- A program in Baltimore with a focus on debate found participants performed better than their peers on standardized tests in both math and English.
- A STEM program in Middletown, Connecticut saw a 60% increase in participants reported interest in STEM fields.

And these results are just a small selection. These numbers provide strong reasoning for protecting and supporting Hawai'i's quality afterschool programs.

In conclusion, the Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance supports SB 2083 and respectfully urges the passage of this bill with the recommendations included in this testimony so that students in Hawai'i have the support they need to participate in a high-quality afterschool program. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Paula Adams
Executive Director
Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance
808-380-1602
hawaiiafterschool@gmail.com
www.hawaiiafterschoolalliance.org

<u>SB-2083</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2018 11:56:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacque Shin	Testifying for Kama'aina Kids	Support	No

Comments:

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 9:25:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
PHC HNL	Testifying for Pioneering Healthier Communities of Honolulu	Support	No

### Comments:

# Re: Support of SB 2083: RELATING TO AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Pioneering Healthier Communities (PHC) Initiative brings together local, diverse leaders to discuss and support strategies, policies and programs that we can accomplish together to build healthier communities in our island home. The Honolulu Committee was established in 2009. The members of PHC of Honolulu are involved in helping children and families to become healthier through schools, afterschool programs, healthcare and community initiatives.

PHC of Honolulu has actively supported After School Programs in Hawaii for years, including the development of the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance. We believe that Hawaii's children, especially those of working parents, deserve affordable, high quality after school programs. Numerous studies and programs evaluations have shown that Afterschool Programs provide children with a safe and structured environment. They support:

- Healthy child development and behavior
- Academic achievement.
- Physical activity including active play

Afterschool programs also provide the opportunity for children and youth to explore their interests and skills, develop lifelong friendships and important inter-personal skills, and allow students to apply what they learn in school to practical, real life experiences.

The "2014 America After 3PM" report, published by the national Afterschool Alliance, articulates some relevant and important statistics:

- 93% of Hawai'i parents support public funding for afterschool programs,
- 86% of Hawai'i parents agree that afterschool programs give working parents peace of mind about their children when they are at work,
- 72% of parents in Hawai'i agree that afterschool programs help parents keep their jobs,

- 75% of Hawai'i parents agree that afterschool programs reduce the likelihood that youth will engage in risky behaviors, and
- 62% of the parents in Hawai'i agree that afterschool programs excite children about learning.

As such, we urge you to pass SB 2083 with the amendment that the specific schools be removed so that the appropriations can support other schools, especially in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Paula Adams

Michael Broderick

Jennifer Dang

Stacy Evensen

Daniela Kittinger

Daniel Leung

Ray L'Heureux

May Okihiro

Diane Tabangay

<u>SB-2083</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2018 4:41:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Godsill	Testifying for HIDOE	Support	No

Comments:

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 5:03:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Jamie Lemon	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

February 20, 2018

To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

**Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means** 

From: Jamie Lemon

Subject: Support of Senate Bill 2083, Relating to After-School Programs

Hello, my name is Jamie Lemon and I am a freshman at Kalaheo High School. I strongly believe in SB 2083 and would like to ask for your support. This bill would provide funding to open and extend after school programs for middle/intermediate schools. This would help kids to stay occupied which would decrease the amount of trouble they get into and give them the option of having a more productive use of their time.

Around half of first time arrests occur in the middle/intermediate school age group and most behaviours resulting in arrest occur between the hours of 3 and 6. If funding is given for more after school programs, these students that would normally be out doing things that could get them arrested would be preoccupied. Opening up and extending the time of more after school programs will help to

decrease the amount of arrests that take place during this time which would be beneficial to both the students and the community.

After the school day ends, around 17 percent of Hawaii's school aged youth have nowhere to go and are responsible for taking care of themselves. This bill would also help to reduce that number and give students a place to go. Studies have also found that quality after school programs inspire, motivate, help children learn, support their social and emotional growth, and help to raise academic achievement. Additionally, 72 percent of parents surveyed in Hawaii agree with this bill and think that there should be more after school programs for their children to attend.

Thank you for your time and I hope that you will take this testimony into consideration and support SB 2083.

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 3:11:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Tricia Dang	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

### Aloha!

I strongly support the intent of the bill. The value of after/out of school programming is invaluable to the well-being of our youth. I applaud the legislators who initiated and support after-school and outside of school educational programming as it not only supports learning, positive experiences, and healthy choices, but also inherently reduces crime and potential for negative behaviors and activities.

I only wish that the support was for a broader number of title 1 schools and also proposed to support for the long-term rather than one school year. After funding expires in 1 year, then will programs and support disappear and it is back to the old routine for these students.

Our children deserve more - commitment, breadth, and funding.

Thank you,

Tricia Dang

<u>SB-2083</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2018 11:10:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No	1

Comments:

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 9:01:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2018 10:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Jeanne Kapela	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and members of the committee,

After-school programming keeps kids safe, secure, and involved in healthy activities. Yet, as this measure's preamble notes, 17 percent of Hawai'i's school-aged youth are responsible for taking care of themselves outside of school hours each day. This problem is especially acute on the outer islands and in high-poverty communities, where the lack of after-school services can leave children vulnerable to problematic individuals and activities, including people seeking to ensnare our keiki into the state's prolific drug trade.

Iceland provides a case study in the value after after-school programming. Today, Iceland leads Europe in cleanest-living teenagers, with the percentage of 15- and 16-year-olds who have been drunk in the previous month plummeting from 42 percent in 1998 to 5 percent in 2016. Over the same period, the percentage of youth who have used cannabis is down from 17 percent to 7 percent, while those smoking cigarettes every day has fallen from 23 percent to just 3 percent.

When we invest in after-school programming, we keep our children safe and expand their opportunities for the future. To bring more of those opportunities to our state's poorest outer island districts, including West Hawai'i, please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Jeanne Kapela